ACP does not support NQF 0105: “Antidepressant Medication Management (AMM)” because it has several issues even though the intent of this measure is important. First, the time frame used in the measure (12 weeks for acute phase and 6 months for continuation) contradicts the recommendations from evidence-based guidelines (4-6 weeks for acute phase, 4-9 months for continuation). This measure does not consider alternative interventions such as psychotherapy, electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) or the combination of somatic and psychotherapy that are as effective as pharmacological treatment. The measure excludes patient choice to switch to another modality of effective therapy due to the side effects associated with pharmacological medications. In the management of patients with depression, a provider-patient discussion on the benefits, harms, and costs of treatment is important and not accounted for in this measure. The exclusions should include lack of patient adherence due to the side effects of medication with documentation of alternative therapy. ACP suggests deleting the requirement for acute phase treatment.

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